

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13
ACDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 STR-04
TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /105 W
-----110836Z 121239 /11

P R 110823Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6387
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 04342

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PGOV EEC WB GW US UK FR UR
SUBJECT: BERLIN AND THE EC: RESPONSE TO SOVIET PROTEST
OF NOVEMBER 16

REFS: (A) STATE 50137; (B) BONN 3884; (C) STATE 33293;
(D) BONN 2447

BEGIN SUMMARY. THE BONN GROUP HAS REACHED AD REF AGREE-
MENT ON A MODIFICATION TO THE WORDING OF THE DRAFT
REPLY TO THE NOVEMBER 16 SOVIET PROTEST WHICH WILL
APPARENTLY SATISFY LONDON. THE US REP WILL ACCEPT IT ON
THE BASIS OF THE DEPARTMENT'S MOST RECENT INSTRUCTIONS
IF IT ALSO PROVES ACCEPTABLE TO LONDON AND PARIS.
END SUMMARY.

1. IN TRIPARTITE MEETING ON MARCH 8, US AND FRENCH REPS
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EXPRESSED THEIR CONTINUING BELIEF IN THE NEED FOR EARLY
AGREEMENT ON A REPLY TO THE NOVEMBER 16 DEMARCHE
CONCERNING REPRESENTATION OF BERLIN IN THE EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT. THEY ASKED THE UK REP (HITCH) WHEN HE
EXPECTED TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE FULLER INFORMATION ON
HIBBERT'S VIEWS ON THE NEED FOR REPLACING
REFERENCES TO THE "STATUS OF BERLIN" WITH "ALLIED

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES."

2. HITCH STATED THAT HIS AMBASSADOR HAD NOT YET DECIDED WHETHER IT WAS WISE TO CIRCULATE HIBBERT'S SIX-PAGE LETTER ON THE SUBJECT BEFORE MARCH 28, WHEN BRITISH OFFICIALS ARE TO HAVE A LENGTHY DISCUSSION IN BONN OF BERLIN POLICY. (HIBBERT WILL BE HERE AND WILL MEET WITH THE UK AMBASSADORS FROM BONN AND BERLIN AS WELL AS OFFICIALS FROM THE UK MISSION IN WEST BERLIN. HITCH -- PROTECT -- HAS TOLD US THAT HIS AMBASSADOR HOPES THAT THE ASSEMBLED EXPERTS WILL MAKE SOME DENT ON SOME OF HIBBERT'S THEORIES WITH WHICH UK OFFICIALS IN GERMANY DISAGREE.)

3. FRENCH AND US REPS EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT SUCH A DELAY WOULD MEAN WAITING AT LEAST ANOTHER MONTH TO ANSWER THE SOVIET PROTEST. IN THE ENSUING DISCUSSION, HITCH LET IT BE KNOWN THAT HIS INSTRUCTIONS DID GIVE HIM ONE FALLBACK POSITION: INSTEAD OF CHANGING PARA F OF THE DRAFT REPLY AS ORIGINALLY REQUESTED BY LONDON, IT COULD ALSO BE REWORDED TO REPEAT THE FORMULATION IN PARA C OF THE DRAFT REPLY. PARA F WOULD THEN READ AS FOLLOWS:

"F. THE (BLANK) GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS IT UNNECESSARY TO COMMENT ON HYPOTHESES CONCERNING THE BUILDING OF A EUROPEAN UNION. EC DEVELOPMENTS WILL CONTINUE TO BE REVIEWED BY THE THREE POWERS IN THE EXERCISE OF THEIR SUPREME
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AUTHORITY, IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT NO SUCH

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P R 110823Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6388

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 04342

DEVELOPMENT AFFECTS ALLIED RIGHTS AND RESPON-
SIBILITIES, INCLUDING THOSE WHICH CONCERN
MATTERS OF SECURITY AND STATUS."

4. US REP COMMENTED THAT, WHILE THIS STILL WAS NOT FULLY RESPONSIVE TO THE SOVIET PROTEST, IT WOULD BE AN IMPROVEMENT IN THAT IT WOULD AT LEAST BRING IN THE QA CRITERION THAT MATTERS OF SECURITY AND STATUS NOT BE AFFECTED BY ACTS BY THE FRG IN REPRESENTATION OF WSB INTERESTS ABROAD. BOISSIEU (FRANCE) AGREED THAT, WHILE THE ORIGINAL DRAFT WAS BETTER, THIS MIGHT PRESENT AN ACCEPTABLE WAY OF REACHING EARLY AGREEMENT ON A REPLY. HITCH THEREFORE AGREED TO LAUNCH HIS SUGGESTION IN THE FULL BONN GROUP.

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5. IN THE MARCH 9 BONN GROUP MEETING, HITCH ACCORDINGLY PROPOSED THE ABOVE WORDING FOR PARA F, STATING THAT HE WAS STILL NOT IN A POSITION TO LAUNCH THE MAJOR DEBATE ON "STATUS" VERSUS "ALLIED RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES." US AND FRENCH REPS STATED THAT THEY WOULD RECOMMEND THE NEW FORMULATION TO CAPITALS. HENZE (FRG) SAID HE HESITATED SLIGHTLY BECAUSE HE STILL DID NOT KNOW WHAT LAY BEHIND THE CHANGE. NEVERTHE- LESS, HE AGREED WITH THE US AND FRENCH REPS THAT SPEED WAS IMPORTANT AND HE THEREFORE ACCEPTED THE PROPOSED CHANGE ON AD REF BASIS.

6. COMMENT: THE US REP DID NOT UTILIZE THE INSTRUC- TIONS IN REF (A) TO ACCEPT THE CHANGE OUTRIGHT, IN VIEW OF THE FRENCH NEED TO REFER THE NEW TEXT TO

PARIS IN ANY CASE. WE ARE STILL NOT HAPPY WITH THE
CHANGE BUT BELIEVE IT SHOULD BE ACCEPTED RATHER THAN
WAITING UNTIL AFTER THE INTERNAL BRITISH DEBATE AT THE
END OF THE MONTH AND TRYING ONCE MORE TO REACH A
MORE ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENT.

7. IF THE FRENCH AND FRG REPS RECEIVE APPROVAL OF THE
ABOVE WORDING FOR PARA 7, THE US REP WILL ACCEPT
IT ALSO, ON THE BASIS OF REF (A), UNLESS INSTRUCTED
TO THE CONTRARY.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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